

FACT SHEET

FINAL AIR TOXICS STANDARDS FOR FRICTION MATERIALS MANUFACTURING FACILITIES

TODAY'S ACTION

- ! The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is today issuing a final regulation to reduce emissions of air toxics from friction materials manufacturing facilities.
- ! Friction materials manufacturing facilities produce friction materials for use in brake and clutch assemblies. Air toxics, also called hazardous air pollutants, are those pollutants known or suspected to cause cancer or other serious health effects in humans.
- ! Today's final regulation focuses on reducing air toxics emitted by solvent mixers used in some friction materials manufacturing processes. The final regulation also will reduce emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOC).
- ! Facilities will be able to comply with the requirements of the final regulation by using a solvent recovery system that will allow them to capture and reclaim the solvent used in the process, by substituting a non-HAP solvent for the HAP solvent, or by using a combination of solvent recovery and solvent substitution.
- ! EPA worked with major stakeholders, including representatives from the industry, in developing the final regulation.

BENEFITS AND COST

- ! Today's final regulation will reduce toxic air emissions from friction materials manufacturing facilities by about 290 tons per year over 1997 levels. The air toxics used at the four affected facilities include three organic compounds: n-hexane, toluene, and trichloroethylene. Exposure to these substances has been demonstrated to cause adverse health effects such as irritation of the lungs, skin, and mucus membranes, and effects on the central nervous system, liver, and kidney.
- ! Since these toxic air emissions are also VOC, VOC emissions will also be reduced by 290 tons per year over 1997 levels. VOC contribute to the formation of ground-level ozone (smog), which can aggravate asthma and other respiratory conditions and damage crops and other plants.

- ! EPA estimates the nationwide total capital cost of compliance at \$947,000. These costs include adding solvent recovery systems, and purchasing monitoring systems and equipment for reporting and recordkeeping. The nationwide total annualized cost, including the savings due to reduced solvent purchases, is estimated to be about \$60,000 per year.
- ! EPA estimates the final regulation will not impact the price of friction materials. No friction materials manufacturing facilities are expected to close as a result of the final regulation.

WHAT THE FINAL REGULATION REQUIRES

The final regulation applies to each friction materials manufacturing facility that is a major source of air toxic emissions. Major sources emit 10 tons a year or more of a single toxic air pollutant, or 25 tons or more of a combination of toxic air pollutants.

- ! All new or existing HAP solvent mixers at friction materials manufacturing facilities will be subject to the final regulation.
- ! Owners or operators of HAP solvent mixers will be required to meet emission limitations limiting the amount of HAP solvent emitted from each mixer. Owners or operators of new and existing large solvent mixers will be required to limit HAP emissions to 30 percent or less of that which would otherwise be emitted in the absence of solvent recovery and/or solvent substitution based on a 7-day block average. Owners or operators of new and existing small solvent mixers will be required to limit HAP emissions to 15 percent or less of that which would otherwise be emitted in the absence of solvent recovery and/or solvent substitution based on a 7-day block average.
- ! EPA anticipates that only four facilities will be subject to the final regulation, and that only two facilities will need to install solvent recovery systems and/or implement solvent substitution to meet the requirements of the final regulation.
- ! For owners or operators of solvent mixers using a solvent recovery system, initial and continuous compliance will be determined by weighing the solvent added to the mixer, and the solvent recovered by the solvent recovery system for each batch of material mixed. For owners or operators of solvent mixers using solvent substitution, initial and continuous compliance will be determined by recording the use of a non-HAP material as a substitute for a HAP solvent for each mix batch.
- ! The recordkeeping and reporting requirements in the final regulation are similar to those required for other EPA air toxics regulations.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- ! To download a copy of the final regulation, go to EPA's World Wide Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/>.
- ! For further information about this final regulation, contact Mr. Kevin Cavender of EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at (919) 541-2364 or cavender.kevin@epa.gov.
- ! EPA's Office of Air and Radiation's homepage on the Internet contains a wide range of information on the air toxics program, as well as many other air pollution programs and issues. The Office of Air and Radiation's home page address is: <http://www.epa.gov/oar/>.